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PATENT
Shonne

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Meng *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/815,262

Art Unit: 1623

Filed: March 21, 2001

Examiner: P. Lewis

For: Thioketals and Thioethers for
Inhibiting the Expression of VCAM-1

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT AND ELECTION OF SPECIES

Sir:

In response to the election of species requirement mailed on October 31, 2002, Applicants hereby elect moieties in which Z is defined as $-\text{CH}_2-(\text{CHOH})_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$. Of the claims presently under consideration, claims 1, 2, 6, 14, 15, 28, 72, 73, 74, 75, and 76 read on the elected species. The Examiner is reminded that once this species is found allowable, the search for relevant prior art should be expanded to include other species within the claimed genre.

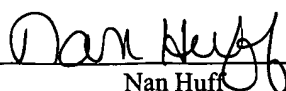
IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 24, 25, 26, 27, 39, 43, 51, 55, 59, 63, 67, and 71, and add new claims 72, 73, 74, 75, and 76, as indicated in the attached documents entitled REPACEMENT CLAIM SET and VERSION OF CLAIMS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE.

CONCLUSION

Enclosed is a petition for one month extension of time and a check in the amount of \$55.00 for the extension. No additional fee is believed due. However, the Commissioner is

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on December 30, 2002.


Nan Huff